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C O N F I D E N T I A L KATHMANDU 002264

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR SA/INS  
NSC FOR GREEN  
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SUBJECT: NEPALI CONGRESS: NEPOTISM ALIVE AND WELL

REF: KATHMANDU 1935

Classified By: Ambassador James F. Moriarty. Reasons 1.4 (b/d).

6 Koirala Relatives Members of NC Central Committee  
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1. (C) On October 18, Nepali Congress (NC) Party President Girija Prasad Koirala appointed 18 members of the 36-member NC Party Central Working Committee. On September 1, NC Party members had elected the other 18 members of the Committee, and re-elected GP Koirala as Party President (reftel). Six Koirala relatives are now members of the NC Central Working Committee. GP Koirala appointed cousin Sushil Koirala, who had recently resigned his General Secretary post, as Party Vice-President, the second highest post in the party. Kul Bahadur Gurung will fill the vacated post, the first ethnic community member to be NC General Secretary. GP Koirala also appointed Ms. Suprabha Ghimire, a Tribuvan University teacher, and Padma Narayan Chaudhary, the first ethnic Tharu, to the Central Working Committee. He reappointed Govind Raj Joshi to the Committee despite Joshi's links to corruption which lost him an elected Committee seat in September. GP Koirala also appointed his daughter, Sujata Koirala, as Chief of the Foreign Relations Department. (Note: Sujata is widely viewed as corrupt and somewhat out of touch with the issues on the ground. End note.)

Comment

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2. (C) Following the party convention where GP Koirala managed to retain power and accommodate the growing republican sentiment of his party, he continues to consolidate power by ensuring family members hold key NC posts.

MORIARTY